

# 5 Our future

## Continued growth for the health service

The successful transformation of the health service post transition to Sunshine Coast University Hospital is a high priority for the next 18 months.

The scale of changes proposed is significant and is driven by community need. Stage two of Sunshine Coast University Hospital includes the opening of additional beds, as well as the start of new tertiary services, such as cardiac and thoracic surgery.

### Digital transformation

Supporting this will be the continued digital transformation of the health service. As part of the digital transformation, clinical solutions will continue to be enhanced. A large component is the roll out of an integrated electronic medical records (ieMR) system at Sunshine Coast University Hospital and Nambour General Hospital. The ieMR will improve clinicians' access to patient information, making it integrated, complete, reliable and readily available. Clinicians at our other facilities will have viewing access to the ieMR records. In addition, as experienced following implementations in other hospitals, significant improvements in the quality of care is expected with potential reductions in medication errors and falls for example.

### Nambour General Hospital and Caloundra Health Service redevelopment

In 2017-2018, work will continue to redevelop our facilities at Nambour and Caloundra. This includes early works to outpatients and inpatient areas, and the main reception, at Caloundra Health Service, and the development of future refurbishment designs for Nambour General Hospital.



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## New treatment targets cancer more closely

Radiation oncology services began in June 2017 at the \$1.8 billion Sunshine Coast University Hospital. Sunshine Coast University Hospital's Adem Crosby Centre provides comprehensive oncology, clinical haematology and for the first time in our region, radiation oncology services are now delivered publicly from the centre.

These services have never been offered in a public hospital in the Sunshine Coast Hospital and Health Service area, with patients previously being treated by a private provider.

This service will ensure the provision of a single oncology service directly controlled by the Sunshine Coast Hospital and Health Service and will remove the interface required between medical oncology (operated by the hospital and health service) and a private provider.

It is anticipated 45 to 50 patients per week will receive radiation therapy treatments at Sunshine Coast University Hospital.

Outpatient radiotherapy planning clinics began on 5 June 2017, with radiation therapy starting on 12 June 2017. The Adem Crosby Centre is home to about 30 staff including medical specialists in radiation oncology, radiation therapists, radiation oncology medical physicists, oncology nurses and allied health staff.



Former Health Service Chief Executive Kevin Hegarty with some members of the cancer care radiation therapy team.

## Technology leads to more efficient care

In 2017 Gympie Hospital began the New Year with some significant new technology to assist with smooth and efficient patient management.

The Patient Flow Manager system was rolled out to all Gympie inpatient wards, providing staff with a convenient digital view of patient status from admission through to discharge. The state-of-the-art technology replaced manual whiteboard views of patient status and current admission care details.

The Patient Flow Manager system enables staff to access a view of a patient's journey and clinical treatment on a single screen, and it can be securely accessed on any of the hospital's electronic devices such as computers, laptops and iPads.

For clinical handover sessions, staff view the information electronically on large screens instead of updating whiteboards. Staff can quickly see important patient information such as fall and infection risks, special dietary or other medical requirements, and referral requests.

The Patient Flow Manager system is an important innovation for healthcare. It enables efficiencies, supports a clinical focus on patient care and aligns with the health service strategy for 'Digital Health' solutions.



The Patient Flow Manager system in action.